

## Governor Wilson and Jim Smith

Governor Wilson is willing to concede something to harmony, but he will not go to the extent of acknowledging the possibility of combining his ideals and those of Jim Smith. If the governor makes himself understood he is not so much against Smith, the man, as Smith, the representative of the boss school of politics. With such he has and can have no parleyings or associations. This is good news. It indicates if Governor Wilson is elected that he will deem it not only his privilege, but his duty, to assist in ending not only Smith, but Murphy. He will clean up his party as a national organization, and he will be on the watch against its becoming dirty again.—New York Globe.

Our republican friend and neighbor, the Tribune, is calling upon Governor Wilson to come over into New York and fight Murphy. Just at present the governor is very busy fighting James Smith in New Jersey, and there are 700,000 democrats in New York whose duty it is to see that Murphy is disposed of.—New York World.

Governor Wilson's step is a bold one. It will stir up trouble in New Jersey. He will be criticised by democrats in some quarters on the allegation that he is causing discord. But Wilson is right. He is doing his duty. He is exercising the true functions of party leadership. There is no sense in his going to the White House, if his influence and the party's measures are to be neutralized in the senate by such democrats as Smith. His clarion call to arms will be received with hearty approval by the bulk of democrats all over the land, and the probabilities are that his course will result in Smith's utter defeat in the New Jersey primaries. Democracy has a real leader who has brains, convictions, determination and courage. He fights for the right and he will win.—Birmingham News.

Let it not be forgotten that Woodrow Wilson's political career has been distinguished from its start by war on bossism. He early invited the relentless hostility of Smith, the most powerful democratic politician of New Jersey. For that the people of that state love their governor. During his official life Governor Wilson has dethroned the machines of two parties—for republican and democratic bosses understood each other and were subservient to great corporate interests—and set the government of New Jersey free to serve the people. It was a consummation that men of little faith never expected to see consummated, but courageous leadership brought it about. This is the man and the candidate whom the aspirant for a third term declares would be subservient to the bosses, and so must not be voted for by genuine progressives. Wilson never truckled to them; and Roosevelt did—that's all; and it is likely to prove a sufficient warrant to the voters of the United States.—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

The action of the governor is bold and unmistakable. It is also necessary. Mr. Smith at the latest possible hour entered the race. Three or four other democrats had entered it before him. The success of any of them would have involved no antagonism to Governor Wilson's candidacy or to the tariff principles of the national democracy. The record of James Smith is contrary to both, and commends him to republicans as Governor Wilson's most formidable opponent in the New Jersey democracy, whose dividing power would be effective, should he not be rebuked by his own party, to give the legislature of the state of New Jersey to the republicans, its next senator to that party, and, possibly, its electoral vote to Theodore Roosevelt, Governor Wilson's most formidable opponent. The most anti-Wilson force in democracy in New Jersey is the James Smith phalanx of protection democracy, not in spite of, but because of, James Smith's affectation of support of the candidacy of the governor for president of the United States.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Governor Wilson will lose nothing in the long run by his present courageous stand against Smith, though it is most probable that he gave no thought to the political effect of his action, either in New Jersey or in the nation. The partisans who affect to believe that Wilson took no risks "in kicking a dead or beaten boss," deliberately shut their eyes to the truth of the

conditions in New Jersey, and by their mean insinuation betray their own petty incapacity to recognize fine conduct by others.

Governor Wilson has set an example which is as rare as it is admirable; he has lifted himself inestimably in the opinion of disinterested, nonpartisan and independent thinkers by his bold attack on Smith, and his honesty will bring its own recompense.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Governor Wilson is giving plenty of evidence that he is sturdy and unflinchingly progressive and that as the democratic nominee for president he stands right where he did when he was simply a candidate for that nomination.

When William J. Bryan issued his appeal to the candidates for the democratic presidential nominees to join with him in an effort to prevent the choice of Judge Alton B. Parker as temporary chairman of the Baltimore convention, on the ground that the tories and special interests represented in the party were backing Mr. Parker, Mr. Wilson was the only candidate who unhesitatingly and openly joined hands with Mr. Bryan. "You are perfectly right," he wrote Mr. Bryan, and he fell with Bryan in that preliminary skirmish at Baltimore. In the end against formidable opposition, he and Bryan gained control of the convention.

It is plain that Governor Wilson believes in doing the thing that is right. In the Parker contest he greatly imperiled his chances of becoming the democratic presidential nominee by his brave support of Bryan and principle. Only recently Governor Wilson publicly expressed the opinion that the democrats of the various states, including New York, should nominate progressive democrats as candidates for governor and other state offices. This was nothing more or less than a repudiation of Governor Dix of New York and a defiance of Tammany. New York's electoral vote is the largest of any state in the union and Tammany dominates the democracy of New York. His open declaration shows the great strength of Mr. Wilson's moral courage and political conscience.

Now, in Governor Wilson's own state, James Smith, jr., who for years carried the democracy of New Jersey in his pocket, announces himself a candidate for the United States senate. Smith was one of the democratic members of the United States senate who nullified the effect of the democratic national victory in 1892. He, with Gorman of Maryland and other members who served special privilege, bedeviled the democratic tariff, which was passed during Grover Cleveland's second administration, to such an extent that Mr. Cleveland pronounced it "an act of party perfidy" and refused to sign it. Democratic victory which gave Gorman, Smith and others like them power to betray the party and the people was something to which democratic defeat might well be preferred. And so it is today.

Governor Wilson has had a hard fight in New Jersey, a fight that has left many scars. Naturally he would like to carry his own state next November, but he has many enemies in New Jersey and Smith is in a position to make trouble for him. In these circumstances an ordinary political leader would keep quiet from fear of arousing opposition within his own party.

Not so Woodrow Wilson. He courageously faces and squarely meets his duty and responsibilities as a leader chosen by the people. In a statement addressed to the democratic voters of New Jersey, he declares, among other things, that "Mr. Smith's election as a democratic candidate for the senate would be the most fatal step backwards that the democrats of the state could possibly take." From personal knowledge he asserts that Smith's hand has at every turn been found "against the new plans of the party—his influence working steadily, but covertly, against everything that has substituted hope and pride for discouragement and shame in the politics of New Jersey."

Truly, in Woodrow Wilson, the American people have found a new leader, a true leader, and a great one. The high qualities of his leadership must appeal strongly to the progressive voters of Wisconsin.—Milwaukee Journal.

The statement made by Governor Wilson in regard to ex-Senator James Smith, jr., of New Jersey, and his announcement of his determination to oppose Smith's return to office, as representing machine and ring rule which he (Wilson) is pledged to destroy, will find the heart-

lest applause from every true democrat—that is, from every man who believes in the government of the people as against government by machine and ring. It may not be "good politics" in the view of the ward politicians; but it is true democracy and it is successful democracy. Governor Wilson stands pledged to crush out the machines and rings, and he is determined to do so whatever its effect upon his presidential chances. He would not be worthy of the nomination he won at Baltimore had he abandoned the very first plank in his platform—the end of rings and machines and the triumph of the people; he will be still less worthy if he abandoned this cause to help his own election. Those who vote for him vote for "death to the rings and machines," to the Smith machine in New Jersey, to Tammany methods in New York, to the Behrman administration in New Orleans.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

### GOVERNOR WILSON'S STRONG PROTEST

Following is an Associated Press dispatch: Jersey City, N. J., Sept. 21—Governor Wilson proclaimed tonight in a speech on the New Jersey senatorial situation that the only condition upon which the democratic party can gain the confidence of the nation is that it should have itself through and through absolutely committed to progressive policies.

The governor spoke here and at Hoboken in opposition to the candidacy of Former United States Senator James Smith, jr., in behalf of Representative William Hughes for the office of United States senator to be voted on in the state primaries next Tuesday. The governor declared at the outset that it was his duty as spokesman for the democratic party in the state to warn the people that James Smith, jr., was not a progressive, but a reactionary. He declared it was no personal contest and that if Mr. Smith was his "dearest friend and held the same opinions that he does," the governor would feel obliged to oppose him.

"I have never been aware of any personal feeling on my part in any political contest against any individual," said the governor. "There is no man in New Jersey that I care to fight or oppose because of his personal quality. They are neither here nor there. The United States is not choosing men now by their private characters merely; it is not choosing them for their likability; it is not choosing them because they are fine fellows, but it is choosing them because they understand the interests of America at this moment. And a man bred in the old school is rejected now, not because he does not hold his convictions honestly, but because he holds convictions from which the cause has turned away.

"We are at a critical juncture in the history of America, and at a very critical juncture in the history of the democratic party. There is only one condition under which the democratic party can gain the confidence of the nation and that condition is that it should have itself through and through absolutely committed to a progressive policy. Just so certainly as it turns back, just so certainly as it makes any other choice, it will be rejected now and need have no hope whatever of being chosen again for our generation.

"The amazing thing to me is that men do not see that those who are put not only at the head of a ticket, but in every place on every ticket must represent this new impulse of democracy or else democracy will be discredited.

"We are not speaking our own individual opinions. We are the spokesmen of a great progressive force in this nation. Why is it that some men who would naturally ally themselves with the third party in this nation are now refusing to do so? Because they say there was no excuse for the formation of that party after the profession of principles and the nominations of the Baltimore convention. Before the campaign began, the very leaders of that party admitted that I stood by the very thing that they profess to stand for, and the contest now as between parties is to gain the permanent confidence of all the people of the United States who have made up their minds that we must move forward with the change of arrangements and the altered necessities of politics. Therefore any man who stands in the way of this great movement of humanity must stand aside. He can not walk with the triumphant hosts of the great democracy."

At both meetings the governor was enthusiastically cheered. He returned to Seagirt tonight.

We are prepared to believe that "Collier's" will be able to print 'em as fast as the Wyoming senator's friends can burn 'em.